

# THE RUTHERFORD Report

THE NEWSLETTER OF SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JANICE RUTHERFORD

March 2011



*"Because of the media hype and woefully inadequate information, too many people nowadays are deathly afraid of their food, and what does fear of food do to the digestive system? ...And if digestion is poor, the whole body politic suffers."*

—Julia Child

## A Fresh Look at Food Trucks

Have you heard about the food truck renaissance that has folks buzzing about kimchi quesadillas, Mexican-Chinese fusion cuisine, and other tasty creations offered by a growing number of mobile food vendors in Los Angeles and other Southern California cities?

If so, maybe you've also wondered, "Why don't we have that here?"

Turns out the County of San Bernardino has prohibited the sale of freshly prepared foods from mobile kitchens for longer than anyone around here can remember. The County allows the sale of pre-packaged food items from

ice cream trucks or carts, but if you need to cook or prepare food to sell it, you're out of luck.

The County's longstanding food truck prohibition likely stems from concerns about the safety of food prepared in kitchens on wheels, but today's mobile food vending entrepreneurs will readily tell you that their modern, mobile kitchens are far from the "roach coaches" that sullied the industry's image.

Modern food trucks aren't school busses or RVs converted in someone's backyard. These trucks feature steam tables, refrigerators, freezers, diamond-plated

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## Linda Burton Connects the Dots



Linda Burton knows there's strength in numbers.

As the part-time coordinator of the Fontana Community Assistance Program (CAP), Linda depends on a coalition of nonprofits, churches, schools, and other agencies that she

helped build from the ground up to help residents in need.

The Fontana CAP—based at Water of Life Church in Fontana—was initiated in May 2004 to create a one-stop shop to connect residents with food banks,

domestic violence shelters, child care providers, drug abuse counselors, and other services.

Linda, who previously taught parenting classes for the City of Rancho Cucamonga, joined the organization shortly after it was formed and quickly began developing the connections she would need to help her clients.

A few months after she started, Linda organized the inaugural Fontana CAP Community Resource Fair, which brought local service organizations together so residents could easily get information about programs and services in the community.

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# Embracing Self-Reliance

Self-reliance is a bedrock virtue of our nation. When our Founding Fathers drafted the U.S. Constitution 235 years ago, they envisioned a limited federal government that protected the liberty of its citizens, not one based on morally corrupting cradle-to-grave public services that eventually create drones of the state.

They knew self-reliant individuals—not citizens dependent on government—were the key to building and maintaining a prosperous, peaceful nation. Self-reliance remains as important today as it was two centuries ago despite the introduction of so many government welfare and social programs.

Most of our citizens are hardworking individuals who value self-reliance. They desire independence and shun government assistance because they take pride in working, paying their own way and reaping the rewards of their own decisions.

The growth of government programs and subsidies threatens the very fabric of our society by reducing self-reliance. As individuals, corporations and other entities rely on government as the backstop for the

consequences of their own poor choices, we all give up freedom and opportunity, as well as hard-earned money. When government encourages an entitlement mentality, the opportunity for corruption grows as well because the stakes get higher and the sense of personal accountability is diminished.

As we seek ways to restore public confidence in government and reign in out-of-control budgets and taxes, we must recommit to the virtue of self-reliance. I have great confidence in the abilities of the American people and know that we will thrive in an environment that respects our individuality and encourages our independence. Indeed, by embracing self-reliance, we will actually rekindle the neighbor-helping-neighbor ethic of a bygone era because self-reliant people are in a better position to offer assistance to those truly in need.

Dependence breeds dependence, encourages corruption and robs us of an essential element of our humanity. Self-reliance, on the other hand, builds character, supports accountability and links us together in ways that make our nation and our spirits stronger.

*Burton, continued from Page 1*

Linda also created an e-mail network of about 300 different people, including volunteers, nonprofit employees, government workers, and more. Now when Linda gets a client or runs across a problem that she can't readily address, she sends an e-mail to the network and before long someone will chime in with a possible solution.

It worked perfectly when a truck carrying about 1,000 frozen turkeys broke down in the City of Fontana, and the driver offered to donate the frozen birds. Linda sent an e-mail blast to her network, and pretty soon food banks, homeless shelters, and other groups were swooping in to pick up the thawing turkeys.

While Linda refers most of her clients to a service agency, there are some that need a personal touch like the time an elderly woman called shortly after her husband had passed away. The woman didn't know what to do next, so Linda just started talking with her about her husband.

After a while, the widow remembered something her husband told her before he died. There was a box in a closet somewhere in the house with a will and other information she would need when he died. Linda stayed on the phone as the woman rummaged through her

closest looking for the box, and she stayed on the phone even longer after the woman found the box and looked through the contents.

There are, of course, some clients that Linda and her coalition simply cannot help either because the person's problems are beyond the scope of CAP or because the client won't put in the effort needed to change their life. Either way, Linda always does her best to point them in the right direction.

"I learned very early, that God might use me to plant the seed, but it takes all of us to make it grow," she said. For more information about the Fontana CAP, visit their website at [www.FontanaCAP.org](http://www.FontanaCAP.org) or call (909) 803-1059.

*The Second District is blessed to have many residents dedicated to giving back to their community, and I want to recognize these selfless individuals by featuring profiles about them and their service to the community in the monthly Rutherford Report.*

*If you know a Second District resident who deserves to be recognized in this forum, I encourage you to send your contact information and a brief summary of why the person should be recognized to [SupervisorRutherford@sbcounty.gov](mailto:SupervisorRutherford@sbcounty.gov).*

## Food Trucks, continued from Page 1

flooring, stainless steel walls and stoves, and many contemporary kitchen features. Trucks in Los Angeles County are also inspected by health departments and issued letter grades just like brick-and-mortar restaurants. And, at the end of each working day, the trucks are required to go to approved commissary facilities to undergo thorough cleansing before hitting the road again.

I recently asked San Bernardino County Environmental Health Services staff members to investigate other jurisdictions' food truck regulations and operations so we can lay the foundation for a mobile food industry—as well as the jobs and economic opportunities it can generate—in San Bernardino County.

Jobs related to the mobile food vending industry stretch well beyond the cooks and servers working on the trucks. In addition, you have commissary workers to clean the trucks, vehicle wrappers to advertise the trucks, and people to build, sell, and repair the trucks.

Some brick-and-mortar restaurants are leery of the food truck phenomena, but several are actively embracing the industry as a way to promote their brand and drive more customers into their sit-down eateries. The list of mobile vending converts includes Border Grill, Fatburger, Johnny Rockets, and Sizzler.

It works the other way, too. Kogi Korean BBQ opened a brick-and-mortar restaurant in Culver City to compliment its highly successful food truck business. The owner of a food truck called Café con Leche originally wanted to open a sit-down Cuban restaurant, but he couldn't afford the start-up costs. After six months on the road, he was able to afford to open that restaurant in Sherman Oaks.

Bringing the mobile food industry into the fold of legal businesses in San Bernardino County will take time. We must carefully examine the industry in other Southern California communities so we can learn from their experience and establish regulations that protect public health and safety. I welcome your questions and concerns as part of the research process as well.

I can almost taste—or perhaps smell—those

bulgogi tacos now.

If you want to try some food truck cuisine sooner, the Chino Valley Unified School District and their PTA's have planned an event featuring a selection of gourmet food trucks. It will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. on April 9 at Don Lugo High School in Chino. This type of event is permitted under current county regulations because the trucks will remain stationary.

Visit [ChinoValleyFoodieFestival.com](http://ChinoValleyFoodieFestival.com) for more details.



Photo: Ricardo Diaz

## 2nd District Trivia

**Last Issue's Answer:** George Chaffey named the Etiwanda colony after a popular Native American Chief who lived near Lake Michigan. The Chief was well-known to many Canadians, and Chaffey—a native Canadian—wanted to lure more of his countrymen to the new settlement.

**Question:** Who was San Sevaine Creek named after?

## Contact Information

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# Supervisor Rutherford: News from Washington

Last week I travelled to our nation's capital for National Association of Counties legislative conference and meetings with our County's Congressional delegation.

The message from Capitol Hill was clear: the Congress understands the need to cut spending, and earmarks will not be used to designate local spending of federal funds.

Even with the fiscal and political constraints they face, our representatives in Congress are supportive of several issues in the County:

- Improvements of the I-15/I-215 Interchange in Devore
- The Workforce Investment Board
- Our concerns about the designation of public desert areas as wilderness, further limiting recreation and development opportunities

The most impressive speaker at the conference was Admiral Mike Muller, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff. Admiral Muller spoke to rousing applause about the tremendous service being rendered by the current generation of U.S. armed forces. I was inspired by his observation that these young soldiers are returning to our communities ready to serve in other capacities. He urged county officials to stand ready to assist them in their transition home by helping them with education, health care and employment opportunities. As we do that, we will all benefit from this new generation of leaders who can move our communities forward.

Admiral Muller also observed that homelessness among veterans—both of the Vietnam era and those recently deployed—is growing, particularly among women. He encouraged us to find ways to help these vets get the mental health, medical and social help they need to get off the streets.

Visit [www.sbcounty.gov/VA](http://www.sbcounty.gov/VA) for information about services provided by the San Bernardino County Department of Veterans Affairs.

## Upcoming Events

March 19, 2011	The Upland Certified Farmers Market features more than a dozen vendors selling a variety of organic and non-organic fresh fruits and vegetables, dried fruits, nuts, eggs, cheeses, fish, baked goods, dried herbs, and cut flowers among other produce and products. The market area is located at the corner of A Street and 3rd Avenue. The Market is open from about 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.
March 21, 2011	The James Brulte Senior Center in Rancho Cucamonga hosts meals for seniors from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every weekday. The meals are offered through the Old Timers Foundation with support from the San Bernardino County Department of Aging and Adult Services. Call (909) 477-2780 for more information.
March 22, 2011	The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors will meet at 10 a.m. in the Covington Chambers at the San Bernardino County Government Center located at 385 N. Arrowhead Ave. in San Bernardino.
March 27, 2011	NASCAR returns to the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana for the Auto Club 400 NSCS at noon.
March 30, 2011	The Inland Empire Asian Business Association will host a seminar from 9 a.m. to noon at the Carnegie Cultural Center located at 123 D St. in Upland to help businesses find trade opportunities with South Korean businesses. The cost is \$20.
March 31, 2011	Supervisor Rutherford will host a business roundtable with local business people at 6 p.m. at the Jesse Turner Center in Fontana. Call (909) 387-4833 or visit <a href="http://sbcounty.gov/rutherford/business">http://sbcounty.gov/rutherford/business</a> for more information.
April 2, 2011	Crestline Art-Tiques will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. in Crestline. Enjoy art, music, and more as you walk down historic Lake Drive in Crestline during this monthly event to promote local businesses. Event may be canceled in case of inclement weather.
April 5, 2011	The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors will meet at 10 a.m. in the Covington Chambers at the San Bernardino County Government Center located at 385 N. Arrowhead Ave. in San Bernardino.
April 16, 2011	Join Supervisor Rutherford for a Saturday walk at the Mary Vagle Museum & Nature Center in Fontana. This will be a great opportunity to speak with Supervisor Rutherford, or to simply enjoy the great outdoors. The Mary Vagle Nature Center is located at 11501 Cypress Ave. in Fontana, and the walk will begin at 11 a.m.

Dates and times are subject to change without notice. Please contact Supervisor Rutherford's office at (909) 387-4833 if you have any questions or suggestions for the Events Calendar. You can view information about more local events on Supervisor Rutherford's home page at [www.sbcounty.gov/rutherford](http://www.sbcounty.gov/rutherford).